



November 30, 2016

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization  
Notice of Forbearance from Lifeline BIAS Requirements  
WC Docket No. 11-42**

Pursuant to the *Lifeline Modernization Order*<sup>1</sup> and the *BIAS Forbearance Public Notice*,<sup>2</sup> United Wireless Communications, Inc. d/b/a United Wireless (“United Wireless” or “Company”) submits this Notice of Forbearance from Lifeline Broadband Internet Access Service (“BIAS”) requirements.<sup>3</sup>

United Wireless is a competitive ETC (“CETC”) with service areas in portions of Kansas. As a recipient of Frozen High Cost Support (“FHCS”), the Company is not required to provide

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<sup>1</sup> *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd. 3962 (2016) (“*Lifeline Modernization Order*”).

<sup>2</sup> *Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance Regarding Filing Procedures for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Seeking to Invoke Forbearance Granted by Lifeline Modernization Order*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 11-42, DA 16-1316 (WCB. rel. Nov. 23, 2016) (“*BIAS Forbearance Public Notice*”).

<sup>3</sup> United Wireless is also submitting this Notice of Forbearance from Lifeline BIAS Requirements for the Study Area Codes (SACs) associated with Epic Touch Company (“Epic Touch”) (SAC: 419009) and WestLink Communications, L.L.C. (“WestLink”) (SAC: 419015). United Wireless is the successor-in-interest to the wireless assets of Epic Touch, including Epic Touch’s ETC designation in Kansas. *See In the Matter of the Application of United Wireless Communications, Inc. and Epic Touch Co. for Commission Findings Regarding Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Status and Designation as Requested by the Universal Service Administrative Company to Streamline Federal Universal Service Support Reporting*, Kansas Corp. Comm. Docket No. 15-UWCC-355-ETC (rel., Apr. 2, 2015). United Wireless is also the successor-in-interest to WestLink and acquired WestLink’s ETC designation in Kansas. *See In the Matter of the Application of United Wireless Communications, Inc. and WestLink Communications, L.L.C. for Commission Findings Regarding Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Status and Designation as Requested by the Universal Service Administrative Company to Streamline Federal Universal Service Support Reporting*, Kansas Corp. Comm. Docket No. 15-UWCC-029-ETC (rel., Dec. 18, 2015).

Lifeline-supported BIAS in its ETC service areas.<sup>4</sup> United Wireless hereby provides notice that it is availing itself of the FCC's forbearance from the Lifeline BIAS requirement throughout its ETC service area. Information regarding where the Company has been designated as an ETC is provided in Attachment A.

In Attachment B, submitted separately via e-mail, United Wireless provides the list of census blocks and associated Federal Information Processing Standards ("FIPS") codes representing the areas in which the Company is availing itself of forbearance.

Although United Wireless believes all of the information provided in this Notice of Forbearance to be accurate, it is possible, for example, that some census blocks and/or FIPS codes may have been inadvertently omitted. United Wireless emphasizes that it elects forbearance throughout its ETC service area and will file a supplement with corrections if errors are identified.

Notwithstanding this forbearance filing and in accordance with the *Lifeline Modernization Order*, United Wireless reserves the right to offer and receive reimbursement for providing Lifeline-supported BIAS to eligible subscribers.<sup>5</sup>

Please contact the undersigned if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Todd Houseman  
General Manager  
United Wireless Communications, Inc.  
Tel.: (888) 303-0083

cc: TelcoLifeline@usac.org

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<sup>4</sup> Unlike recipients of other types of high-cost support who were granted forbearance based on census block, FHCS recipients "are not required to offer Lifeline-supported broadband services in their designated service areas." See *Lifeline Modernization Order*, 31 FCC Rcd. at 4074 (¶ 311).

<sup>5</sup> See *id.* See also, *BIAS Forbearance Public Notice*, *supra*, at p. 2

**Attachment A**  
**Information Regarding ETC Designations**

<b>ETC Name(s)</b>	<b>Study Area Code(s)</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Designating Authority</b>	<b>Date(s) of ETC Designations</b>	<b>ETC Designation Orders</b>	<b>Type of ETC Designation</b>
United Wireless Communications, Inc. d/b/a United Wireless	419011	KS	Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)	Jan. 17, 2006	KCC Docket No. 06-UWCC-243-ETC; <i>Order Approving Application</i>	FHCS CETC
United Wireless Communications, Inc. d/b/a United Wireless	419011	KS	Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)	Nov. 28, 2006	KCC Docket No. 07-UWCC-293-ETC; <i>Order Granting United Wireless Communications Inc. 's Application for Expansion of its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation</i>	FHCS CETC
United Wireless Communications, Inc. d/b/a United Wireless	419011	KS	Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)	June 2, 2009	KCC Docket No. 09-UWCC-328-ETC; <i>Order Granting United Wireless Communications, Inc. 's Application for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation</i>	FHCS CETC
United Wireless Communications, Inc./WestLink Communications, L.L.C.	419011, 419015	KS	Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)	Dec. 18, 2014	KCC Docket No. 15-UWCC-029-ETC; <i>Order Granting Application and Making Findings Regarding Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) Status and Designation</i>	FHCS CETC
United Wireless Communications, Inc./Epic Touch Company	419011, 419009	KS	Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)	Apr. 2, 2015	KCC Docket No. 15-UWCC-355-ETC; <i>Order Granting Application and Making Findings Regarding Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Status and Designation</i>	FHCS CETC

**Attachment B**

**BIAS Forbearance Census Blocks**

**[Provided as Separate Excel File]**